

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 01902 160615Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /035 W
-----002379 161210Z /13

R 160608Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6937
USIA WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USLO PEKING
USMISSION USBERLIN

UNCLAS BERLIN 01902

USIAC

EO 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: INVITATIONAL SCREENING "STAR WARS"

REF: (A) BERLIN 1742, (B) USIA 6431

1. SECOND INVITATIONAL SCREENING OF "STAR WARS" TOOK PLACE MARCH 13 IN EMBASSY AUDITORIUM CO-HOSTED BY DCM AND PAO. EIGHTY PERCENT OF AUDIENCE WHICH FILLED AUDITORIUM CONSISTED MANY OUR KEY UNOFFICIAL EAST GERMAN CONTACTS, FROM THE LITERARY, FILM, PUBLISHING, ACADEMIC, CHURCH, SCIENTIFIC AND OFFICIAL (MFA AND MINISTRY HIGHER EDUCATION) COMMUNITY. TOGETHER WITH AMBASSADOR'S MARCH 3 INVITATIONAL SHOWING AT RESIDENCE (REFTEL A), COMBINED TOTAL ATTENDANCE OF 140 WAS LARGEST AND BROADEST REPRESENTATION TO DATE FOR FILM SHOWING, AND PROVED "STAR WARS" TO BE MOST SUCCESSFUL EVENT IN 35-MM FEATURE FILM SERIES MADE AVAILABLE BY MPAA.

2. COMMENTS ABOUT "STAR WARS" WERE OVERWHELMINGLY POSITIVE, MOST GUESTS HAVING SEEN BRIEF EXCERPTS TOGETHER
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WITH FILM REVIEWS ON WESTERN TELEVISION. SOME WHO WERE CRITICAL MENTIONED THE WAR-LIKE ASPECTS OF THE FILM AND THAT THERE WAS "TOO MUCH SHOOTING ALL THE TIME." ONLY GDR PRINTED COMMENTARY HAS BEEN IN "JUNGE WELT" WHICH SEVERELY CRITICIZED FILM, BUT THOSE WHO HAD SEEN ARTICLE SAID REVIEWER CLEARLY DID NOT UNDERSTAND TRUE NATURE OF "STAR WARS." APPARENTLY, MOST OF AUDIENCE

DID AND EXPRESSED PLEASURE AND ENJOYMENT, SUMMED UP IN
WRITER STEFAN HEYM'S COMMENT THAT FILM WAS FUN FROM
BEGINNING TO END AND BEST DESCRIBED AS A
"SCIENCE-FICTION WESTERN."

3. POST EXPRESSES APPRECIATION TO MPAA FOR SUCH
OPPORTUNITY, HOPES OTHER FILMS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AS
VALUABLE MEDIUM ATTRACTING AND MAINTAINING CONTACTS, AND
SUPPORTS EFFORTS OBTAIN "CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD
KIND" FOR SIMILAR USE.

4. NOTE FOR SOFIA AND PEKING: SECOND REEL CONTAINS
SPlice OF ABOUT THREE FEET BECAUSE OF DAMAGE BY
PROJECTOR BUT WITHOUT DISRUPTION OF CONTINUITY.
ALEXANDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FILMS, CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BERLIN01902
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780117-0182
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780362/aaaacaif.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INVITATIONAL SCREENING \"STAR WARS\"
TAGS: SCUL, OEXC, US, WB
To: STATE USIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4e2d4bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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